

**From:** [Hughes, Eric H SAJ](#)  
**To:** [carol\\_mitchell@nps.gov](mailto:carol_mitchell@nps.gov)  
**Cc:** [Oberlin, Leah A SAJ](#)  
**Subject:** FW: thoughts on the seepage management project  
**Date:** Thursday, September 22, 2011 3:37:28 PM  
**Attachments:** [20110916 final seep mgmt Briefing for Dan K.doc](#)

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Carol:

Very good attached Briefing Statement. Leah Oberlin (copied) is the COE regulatory Project Manager dealing with the rockmining issues. I have worked closely with her for years and she is very familiar with the 2009 Rockmining/Lakebelt SEIS and is a member on the 7 agency/member LakeBelt Mitigation Committee (LBMC), as am I.

I haven't looked at the revised WRAP analysis from Dr. Lodge, but I will be doing that shortly. Several important points I want to emphasize at this time:

1 - the proposed seepage wall hydro performance is MODEL OUTPUT. Until the real world performance is documented with a detailed hydrological monitoring system, all this stuff is just in MODEL LAND.

2 - development of a sufficient onsite hydrological monitoring program - EPA/COE needs the expertise of ENP staff (folks like Kevin Kotun, Roy, etc) and others to help the LBMC with the design, oversight and analysis of DATA from the monitoring program.

3 - WRAP is a very primitive assessment tool. IF the committee approves the release of \$4-6 million from the LB mitigation fund to construct 1-2 miles of the slurry wall, it will definitely (in my opinion) involve something of a leap of faith.

4 - Shame on us (the LBMC) if after the construction of the 1st 1-2 miles of slurry wall we don't have real MONITORING DATA to show us that either the slurry wall works better than we think it does, the same as predicted, or is a relative failure.

5 - There will be intense political/agency pressure to build the slurry wall out to the full 7 miles, and maybe future construction to the north. WE HAVE TO HAVE something better than MODEL OUTPUT to guide our future decisions.

6 - the issue of exotic (melaleuca?) removal in the NESRS area of ENP hasn't really been discussed yet as part of the miners mitigation proposal, but I don't see why it shouldn't be.

7 - the history of wetlands regulatory mitigation crediting/calculation is a long and winding road, however, it has always been a primarily HABITAT improvement enterprise.

I am grateful to see that you and your ENP folks are engaged. Us regulatory types need all the help that we can get!

Eric H  
EPA - Jax, FL  
904-232-2464w  
561-310-9223c



REFERRED TO NPS

"Hughes, Eric H  
SAJ"  
<Eric.H.Hughes@usace.army.mil> To  
<carol\_mitchell@nps.gov>  
cc  
09/22/2011 03:37 "Oberlin, Leah A SAJ  
PM (Leah.A.Oberlin@saj02.usace.army.mil  
I)" <Leah.A.Oberlin@usace.army.mil>  
Subject  
FW: thoughts on the seepage  
management project

Carol:

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I haven't looked at the revised WRAP analysis from Dr. Lodge, but I will be doing that shortly. Several important points I want to emphasize at this time:

1 - the proposed seepage wall hydro performance is MODEL OUTPUT. Until the real world performance is documented with a detailed hydrological monitoring system, all this stuff is just in MODEL LAND.

2 - development of a sufficient onsite hydrological monitoring program - EPA/COE needs the expertise of ENP staff (folks like Kevin Kotun, Roy, etc) and others to help the LBMC with the design, oversight and analysis of DATA from the monitoring program.  
Kevin and Roy were on the call this am, and are definitely available to help with the monitoring program.  
They have thought a lot about this, and they indicate that it will be very very tough to demonstrate hydrologic effects in the field that are attributable only to this project, especially as this project is scheduled to be constructed at the same time as the bridge is finished and around the same time that the Combined Operational Plan is finished. Even more difficult to demonstrate veg or wildlife lift in the field associated only with this project.  
We are taking a close look at the specifics of the most recent WRAP scoring approach provided by Tom Lodge; yes, it is based on model output, but at the moment that is all we have.

3 - WRAP is a very primitive assessment tool. IF the committee approves the release of \$4-6 million from the LB mitigation fund to construct 1-2 miles of the slurry wall, it will definitely (in my opinion) involve something of a leap of faith.  
There seems to be good conversation going on among those who know WRAP (i.e. Leah, Alicia from our shop, Alan Webb and Tory Foster from FWS) about how to modify the tool so that it can function better for this assessment (i.e. using maybe increments of 0.25 instead of the more restrictive 0.5 units, potentially working an element of risk into the scoring, either as you score or afterward as a kind of "debit" due to risk). Something thrown on the table today was the possibility of including a decent "risk debit" during the construction of the 2-mile wall, and if/when the technology really proves to work through structural testing and tracer testing, perhaps reducing that "risk debit" in the calculations for the remaining 5 miles.  
shop

4 - Shame on us (the LBMC) if after the construction of the 1st 1-2 miles of slurry wall we don't have real MONITORING DATA to show us that either the slurry wall works better than we think it does, the same as predicted, or is a relative failure.

5 - There will be intense political/agency pressure the build the slurry wall out to the full 7 miles, and maybe future construction to the north. WE HAVE TO HAVE something better than MODEL OUTPUT to guide our future decisions.

It seems, from our own NPS hydro staff, that the most reliable real data to tell whether or not the 2 mile is working will be the structural tests and tracer test information. Until the wall is "tied" into other structures along that border(i.e. the 7 mile wall with tie-ins to structures), the water will simply run along it and go around the southern end. Again, it's going to be tough to show the effect of this structure on hydro/veg/wildlife out in the slough as independent from the other things that are happening (bridge/ops).

6 - the issue of exotic (melaleuca?) removal in the NESRS area of ENP hasn't really been discussed yet as part of the miners mitigation proposal, but I don't see why it shouldn't be. We talked a bit about that today, and I've sent some preliminary information to Leah.

7 - the history of wetlands regulatory mitigation crediting/calculation is a long and winding road, however, it has always been a primarily HABITAT improvement enterprise.

I am grateful to see that you and your ENP folks are engaged. Us regulatory types need all the help that we can get!

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904-232-2464w  
561-310-9223c

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**From:** [Hughes, Eric H SAJ](#)  
**To:** [Roy Sonenshein \(roy.sonenshein@nps.gov\)](#); [kevin.kotun@nps.gov](#); [Mirecki, June E SAJ](#)  
**Cc:** [Oberlin, Leah A SAJ](#); [White, Tori SAJ](#); [giattina.jim@epa.gov](#); [Dan Kimball \(dan.kimball@nps.gov\)](#); [White, Tori SAJ](#)  
**Subject:** FW: LBMC Handouts for 9/30/11 Meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 28, 2011 3:41:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [L-31N project memo to Committee - 9-11 meeting.pdf](#)  
[Summary of Model Results for the L-31N Seepage Barrier 8-2011 text.pdf](#)  
[WRAP scoring approach - L-31N seepage barrier 9-23-11.pdf](#)  
[BCI Construction Quality Management 9-11.pdf](#)  
[L-31N seepage barrier 2 miles - monitoring plan 9-11.pdf](#)  
[L-31N seepage barrier 2 miles - cost estimates 9-11.pdf](#)

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June/Roy & Kevin:

I need ya'll to evaluate the sufficiency of the proposed attached "L-31N Seepage Barrier Monitoring Plan"

-----Original Message-----

From: Elias, Lourdes [<mailto:lelias@sfwmd.gov>]  
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2011 9:48 AM  
To: Bain, Anita; 'Baker, Bill'; Bates, Terrie; Black, David; 'bmg@miamidade.gov'; Brown, Robert; Burns, Scott; 'burzyG@miamidade.gov'; Clements, Ruth; Conmy, Barbara; Coughlin, Steve; 'Davis, Matt'; 'dshirreffs@npca.org'; 'friesd@miamidade.gov'; 'Hayes, Howard'; 'Hobgood, Winston'; Hughes, Eric H SAJ; 'jadornato@npca.org'; 'King, Tim'; 'lawrence@sfirestore.org'; 'Lee Chitty'; 'Llewellyn, Janet'; Lopez Oriol, Olga; 'Miedema, Ron'; Moore, Marjorie; Needle, Jeffrey; Oberlin, Leah A SAJ; 'Perez, Lucia'; Quigley, Michelle; 'Rosenfeld, Jeff'; Schaeffer, Robert; Sciortino, Raymond; 'sfain@npca.org'; 'Skornick, Evan'; Smith, Jason; 'SpineM@miamidade.gov'; Tom MacVicar; Verrastro, Robert; 'Webb, Allen'; White, Tori SAJ  
Subject: LBMC Handouts for 9/30/11 Meeting

Good morning all,

Attached please find the proposal document and backup items for Agenda Item #6 for Friday's meeting.

Thanks,

Lourdes M. Elias

Water Resources Division

South Florida Water Management District

Phone - 561-682-2706

Fax - 561-682-5011

[lelias@sfwmd.gov](mailto:lelias@sfwmd.gov)

**From:** [Hughes, Eric H SAJ](#)  
**To:** [Roy Sonenshein \(roy.sonenshein@nps.gov\)](#); [Mirecki, June E SAJ](#); [kevin.kotun@nps.gov](#)  
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**Subject:** FW: LBMC Handouts for 9/30/11 Meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 28, 2011 4:37:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [L-31N project memo to Committee - 9-11 meeting.pdf](#)  
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[L-31N seepage barrier 2 miles - cost estimates 9-11.pdf](#)

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June/Roy & Kevin:

I need your assistance with reviewing the sufficiency of the attached proposed "L-31N Seepage Barrier Monitoring Plan" from the Miami-Dade rockminers. I request that you independently review the proposed monitoring plan then discuss it amongst yourselves, then get back to me. If you need to bring other technical folks into your group, please do. I anticipate that the miners will want the 7 LakeBelt Mitigation Committee (LBMC) agency members to vote on the release of the \$7.8 million in the near future. If not at the upcoming 9/30 LBMC meeting, then probably in October. If you feel that additional hydro monitoring is required, please be specific in your comments back to me.

Is the proposed hydrologic monitoring plan sufficient enough to produce data that can confirm the predictions of the models of the positive effects of the proposed 2-mile long, 35-foot deep slurry wall? The model predictions are in my mind quite subtle, with 1 to 4 inches of increased wet season water depths occurring over the large predicted area in the northeast Shark River slough (NESRS).

IF EPA is to vote to approve the release of the \$7.8 million, we need to feel confident that monitoring of the performance of the 2-mile long deep slurry wall will enable future decisions regarding extending the slurry wall south for a full 7 miles, to be based on REAL WORLD DATA, not more model predictions.

Thank you very much in advance for your assistance. Please contact me via phone or e-mail if you have any concerns or questions pertaining to this e-mail.

Eric H  
EPA - Jacksonville, FL  
904-232-2464w  
561-310-9223c

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Subject: LBMC Handouts for 9/30/11 Meeting

Good morning all,

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**From:** [Mirecki, June E SAJ](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Timothy R SAJ](#)  
**Cc:** [Oberlin, Leah A SAJ](#)  
**Subject:** Need labor and travel for L-30 SMPP review and decommissioning  
**Date:** Monday, October 03, 2011 10:48:11 AM  
**Attachments:** [L-31N project memo to Committee - 9-11 meeting.pdf](#)  
[Summary of Model Results for the L-31N Seepage Barrier 8-2011 text.pdf](#)  
[WRAP scoring approach - L-31N seepage barrier 9-23-11.pdf](#)  
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[L-31N seepage barrier 2 miles - cost estimates 9-11.pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Tim,

The period of data collection at L-30 has now ended. However, there are still required tasks for me related to review of the Lake Belt Mining committee documents, and also decommissioning of the L30 site.

Last Friday, the Lake Belt Mining Committee (LBMC) presented their plan to construct a 2-mile long wall extending south from its present location. Construction involves a monitoring plan, a construction plan, and also evaluation of predictive model simulations to estimate hydroperiod changes that result from the wall. The LBMC will vote whether or not to approve this plan on October 21.

1. Leah Oberlin has requested my review of the attached documents, with input before the 21 October vote.

2. I also need to meet with the Contractor team on-site to evaluate site conditions, and to facilitate decommissioning (or, preparation for an S-356 pump test. I am working with Donna Martin on this). I am planning on visiting the site on or about 13-14 October.

I request funding from the L-30 SMPP project to support both of these activities. If you need to make a P2 change, this is what I would suggest:

P2# 114775  
My org code K3L0EB0  
Labor \$4000  
Travel \$1000  
GSAVEH \$500

Also, I have executed a no cost mod to change the end date to receive the final report. They will be doing the final data download this week, and then can incorporate those data into the draft report. We've also had some vandalism at the site - a solar panel was smashed deliberately.

Please advise, I'd like to start pulling my travel stuff together shortly.  
June

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Hughes, Eric H SAJ  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 28, 2011 4:37 PM  
**To:** Roy Sonenshein ([roy\\_sonenshein@nps.gov](mailto:roy_sonenshein@nps.gov)); Mirecki, June E SAJ ; [kevin\\_kotun@nps.gov](mailto:kevin_kotun@nps.gov)  
**Cc:** [giattina.jim@epa.gov](mailto:giattina.jim@epa.gov); Dan Kimball ([dan\\_kimball@nps.gov](mailto:dan_kimball@nps.gov)); White, Tori SAJ; Oberlin, Leah A SAJ; Tori Foster ([victoria\\_foster@fws.gov](mailto:victoria_foster@fws.gov)); Bob Progulske ([bob\\_progulske@fws.gov](mailto:bob_progulske@fws.gov))  
**Subject:** FW: LBMC Handouts for 9/30/11 Meeting

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IF EPA is to vote to approve the release of the \$7.8 million, we need to feel confident that monitoring of the performance of the 2-mile long deep slurry wall will enable future decisions regarding extending the slurry wall south for a full 7 miles, to be based on REAL WORLD DATA, not more model predictions.

Thank you very much in advance for your assistance. Please contact me via phone or e-mail if you have any concerns or questions pertaining to this e-mail.

Eric H  
EPA - Jacksonville, FL  
904-232-2464w  
561-310-9223c

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Lourdes M. Elias

Water Resources Division

South Florida Water Management District

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Fax - 561-682-5011

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Cc: giattina.jim@epa.gov; Dan Kimball (dan\_kimball@nps.gov); White, Tori SAJ; Oberlin, Leah A SAJ;

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'dshirreffs@npca.org'; 'friesd@miamidade.gov'; 'Hayes, Howard'; 'Hobgood, Winston'; Hughes, Eric H

SAJ; 'jadornato@npca.org'; 'King, Tim'; 'lawrence@sfirestore.org'; 'Lee Chitty'; 'Llewellyn, Janet'; Lopez

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Tori SAJ

Subject: LBMC Handouts for 9/30/11 Meeting

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P2# 114775  
My org code K3L0EB0  
Labor \$4000  
Travel \$1000  
GSAVEH \$500

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**From:** [Hughes, Eric H SAJ](#)  
**To:** [Oberlin, Leah A SAJ](#)  
**Subject:** Seepage wall memo  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 05, 2011 3:56:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [MitigationConcurrencymemo.doc](#)

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Please review ASAP and give me your thoughts/comments. Thanks.

*Released*

**DRAFT – CONFIDENTIAL** internal document, do not release

**LAKE BELT MINING MITIGATION CONCURRENCY  
SEEPAGE REDUCTION SLURRY WALL @ ENP**

**October 5, 2011**

**FROM:** Eric Hughes, R4, WPD, WCOB, Jacksonville, FL

**TO:** Jim Giattina, R4, Director, WPD

**Topic:** EPA approval of rockminers proposal to construction 2 linear miles of seepage reduction/slurry wall adjacent to Everglades National Park (ENP) as mitigation

**Key Issues:** Mitigation sufficiency, groundwater seepage concerns, cost effectiveness of proposed seepage reduction mitigation

**Issue:** In the late 1990's State of Florida LakeBelt Plan established a seven member LakeBelt Mitigation Oversight Committee (LBMC) to oversee use of funds from the Lakebelt mitigation fund (mining surcharge per ton) to conduct compensatory mitigation actions to offset wetland impacts associated with Lakebelt mining activities. EPA Region 4 and the Jacksonville COE have played lead roles on the LBMC along with FDEP, the SFWMD and Miami-Dade County DERM. In 2009, the Miami-Dade Limestone Products Association (MDLPA) constructed a 1000-foot long, 18 foot deep seepage reduction/slurry wall PILOT PROJECT on the eastern border of ENP, adjacent and west of the L-31N drainage canal (part of the C&SF flood control system), using ~400k of LakeBelt mitigation funds, approved by the LMBC. This pilot project was monitored and proved to be only partially successful in reducing west to east Biscayne Aquifer seepage out of ENP.

To date, the LB mitigation fund has raised ~\$45.4 Million and expended ~ 38.8 million. The vast majority of the mitigation work to date has been located in the Pennsuco wetlands, adjacent and west of the Lakebelt mining area, where wetland acquisition and melaleuca removal has accounted for compensatory mitigation. In 2011, almost all of the available compensatory wetland 'lift' available in the Pennsuco has been realized. The rockminers desperately need new and additional wetland mitigation activities in Miami-Dade County, to offset their permitted mining impacts.

The MDLPA is proposing to construct another 2-mile seepage reduction/slurry wall, this time to 35 foot depth, to increase water stages in ENP and improve sheet flow in the Park and improve ecological conditions in the ENP. The estimated price tag for the 2-mile wall will be \$7.8 million. Extensive hydrologic modeling, wetland compensatory analysis, improved slurry wall construction engineering (QA/QC), required hydrological monitoring and other related issues have been reviewed by the LBMC over the past 2-3 months. Eric Hughes (R4) briefed WPD Director Jim Giattina via phone on these issues on 9/19/11. The LBMC will be meeting on 10/21/11 to vote on the release of the \$7.8 million from the Lakebelt mitigation fund to implement the 2-mile long slurry wall. The rockminers eventually hope to extend the seepage reduction/slurry wall to a full 7 linear miles adjacent to ENP and the L-31N canal/levee.

**Background:** In 2000, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) completed a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) evaluating proposed limerock mining in the multi-party Lake Belt Plan. This plan was part of a larger State of Florida initiative to establish the Lake Belt rock mining area as a way to evaluate large scale limestone mining in a watershed fashion. Region 4 commented extensively on both the EIS and associated Section 404 PNs. In April 2002, the Corps issued 10 year Section 404 permits to 10 companies to excavate limerock eliminating approximately 5,400 acres of wetlands. The permits were issued for a substantially smaller acreage of mining than originally proposed in the State's overall 50-year Lake Belt Plan. The permits were challenged in Federal Court by a coalition of environmental organizations. In a March 2006 ruling, Judge Hoeveler concluded that the permits should not have been issued. For the Clean Water Act (CWA), he concluded that the analyses were inadequate or wrong regarding water dependency, project purpose, alternatives analysis, minimization, mitigation and public involvement. Subsequently, the COE produced a draft supplemental EIS (DSEIS) on the mining, in September 2007. Region 4 provided comments in response the COEs' release of the DSEIS on October 19, 2007. In that letter we raised concerns regarding wetland mitigation sufficiency, ground water seepage impacts and potential degradation of ground water and drinking water. Prior to completing the Final SEIS, the Jacksonville COE released the Section 404 PNs for 6,800 acres of mining on 2/28/08. Region 4 provided our Section 404 (q) "3a" comment letter to the COE on 3/27/08.

On January 30, 2009, Judge Hoeveler issued a new opinion in which he ruled against the COE and the rockmining companies, and he set aside all 10 of the existing 404 limestone mining permits. In the 2002-2008 timeframe approximately 2,800 acres of wetlands authorized for excavation in the COE's 2002 Section 404 permit, have been converted to borrow pits. The FSEIS/Section 404 PN was released for agency/public review on 5/8/09. Region 4 sent "3a" and "3b" letters to the COE on 6/8/09 and 7/1/09. The FSEIS was released in June 2009 and evaluated nine NEPA alternatives (including a no mining alternative), resulting in wetland excavation losses from the existing 2009 condition, ranging from zero acres (Alternative 1 – no action, complete cessation of mining) up to 15,833 acres of additional borrow pits (Alternative 4 – full Mine-out). In November 2009, the COE shared the draft 404 Record of Decision (ROD, 132 pages) with EPA for coordination and comment. In February- March 2010 the COE issued 8 similar 404 permits to LakeBelt miners authorizing 10 year phased permits (w/ 31 pages of detailed special conditions) which would convert 4,600 acres of melaleuca wetlands to 80-foot deep quarry pits. Extensive wetlands compensatory mitigation, wetlands preservation, seepage management and SW/GW WQ monitoring is required.

**Current Status:** The LBMC is meeting on 10/21/11 to approve/disapprove release of \$7.8 million of mitigation funds to construct & monitor a 2-mile long, 35 foot deep seepage reduction/slurry wall adjacent to ENP/L-31N.

**Technical Issues - Hydrological Modeling and Wetlands Assessment:** The miner's consultants produced a 8/29/11 Report titled "Evaluating the Performance of a Partially Penetrating Seepage Barrier between ENP and the L-31N Canal". This report describes sub-surface/surface hydrologic model predictions for various proposed seepage wall scenarios adjacent to ENP. The modeled slurry walls range from 1 to 7 miles in length, with wall depths

of 18 to 35 feet. During our 9/19/11 phone conversation, I reviewed info from this report with you. Generally, the modeling predicts that the L-31-N proposed seepage walls would increase wet season ponding depths in the NE Shark River Slough area of ENP from 1 to 4 inches. These are rather subtle positive ecological benefits over large areas on ENP (2,000 acres up to 31,000 acres). Increased flows of clean water in ENP are predicted, associated with the greater wet season water depths resulting from the proposed slurry wall. Questions of the model's precision and accuracy (error bounds) are certainly legitimate, and have been discussed by a small technical group of reviewers, looking at model output.

The COE required the miners to prepare an ecological benefits analysis of the predicted model output. Since the Wetland Rapid Assessment Procedure (WRAP) method has been used on all previous Lakebelt associated ecological analyses, WRAP was applied to the hydrological model output, in an attempt to quantify expected ecological benefits associated with construction of various seepage reduction slurry wall options. It must be stated that WRAP is a very primitive analytical tool to be used to evaluate such subtle hydrological model predictions, as we are attempting to do here. The COE is working closely with the miners and the LBMC review agencies to come to agreement as to how many WRAP mitigation credits should be acknowledged/credited to the miners, for the proposed slurry wall construction.

EPA has reviewed the miners proposed hydrological monitoring network that will quantify REAL WORLD slurry wall performance and be used to validate the predicted model output. I have consulted with ENP hydrologists, who have signed off on the sufficiency of the miner's proposed hydrological monitoring network. Verification of the hydrological performance of a proposed 2-mile long, 30-foot deep slurry wall is CRITICAL for the LBMC to have and evaluate, PRIOR to making future decisions about potentially extending the slurry wall to a full 7-mile length (millions of additional \$ from the LakeBelt mitigation fund).

**Conclusions/Recommendations:** After carefully reviewing all available information and having numerous conversations with the COE, the miners reps, ENP superintendant Dan Kimball and other ENP staff and the other LBMC agency reps, I recommend that EPA vote to APPROVE the release of ~\$7.8 million of LBMC funds to enable construction and detailed hydrological monitoring of the proposed 2-mile long, 35 foot deep seepage reduction slurry wall.

**Action Needed:** Concurrence by Jim Giattina

### **CONTACTS**

EPA Program POC: Eric Hughes

EPA Legal POC: Philip Mancusi-Ungaro

**From:** Hughes, Eric H SAJ  
**To:** Oberlin, Leah A SAJ  
**Subject:** RE: L-31N seepage. (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 09, 2011 12:28:14 PM

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Leah:

Thanks. The \$ for EN-GS probably ran out!

Reasonable conclusions. No change to EPA's position/vote, just recommend that close onsite QA/QC be implemented and if the 1st 1000 ft isn't working/performing that the miner's contractor(s) STOP and figure it out BEFORE spending ~\$7 million!

I think a couple hr field trip while the initial 1000 ft job is underway would be a very good idea for the committee members. What say?

I'll be calling in next Tuesday (11/15) - AMERICA RECYCLES DAY on my calendar!

Eric H

-----Original Message-----

From: Oberlin, Leah A SAJ  
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2011 11:59 AM  
To: Hughes, Eric H SAJ  
Subject: L-31N seepage. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Sincerely,  
Leah Oberlin  
Environmental Engineer  
Chief, Palm Beach Gardens Section  
Jacksonville District  
4400 PGA Blvd, Suite 500  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410  
561-472-3517 (office)

Plz use the link below: Map to our office, FAQ's, Contact info, Our Statutes, Regulations, AVATAR Guide To Filling Out Our Applications, Public Notices & More use this link.

<http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/Divisions/Regulatory/index.htm>

Please assist us in better serving you! Please complete the customer survey by clicking on the following link:

**From:** [Hughes, Eric H SAJ](#)  
**To:** [Oberlin, Leah A SAJ](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Lake Belt Mitigation Committee Meeting - 9/30/11  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 20, 2011 3:23:47 PM

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Leah:

Good. After you meet with him give me a call. I briefed my big boss in Atlanta, Jim Giattina via the phone on this yesterday. The more I think about it, the more I think that IF the committee approves another wall that we should approve a 1-MILE, 30 ft deep section, with LOTS of hydro monitoring to confirm performance. If new/additional hydro monitoring wells/etc. need to be installed, so be it. We really need to document successful performance before launching off (and committing a LOT of \$) on constructing a 2-7 mile long slurry wall.

Eric H

-----Original Message-----

From: Oberlin, Leah A SAJ  
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2011 3:17 PM  
To: Hughes, Eric H SAJ  
Subject: RE: Lake Belt Mitigation Committee Meeting - 9/30/11

We are not. I am meeting with Tom on Thursday to discuss the wall and concerns we have/things we want to see.

-----Original Message-----

From: Hughes, Eric H SAJ  
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2011 3:15 PM  
To: Oberlin, Leah A SAJ  
Subject: FW: Lake Belt Mitigation Committee Meeting - 9/30/11

Leah:

I don't see on the agenda where we would be voting on approval of a new 1-2 mile slurry wall. Fine by me. FYI.

Eric H

-----Original Message-----

From: Elias, Lourdes [<mailto:lelias@sfwmd.gov>]  
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2011 3:21 PM  
To: Bates, Terrie  
Subject: Lake Belt Mitigation Committee Meeting - 9/30/11

Please review and approve the attached agenda and draft meeting summary as soon as you can, so that it can be distributed before the September 30th meeting.

Thanks,

Lourdes M. Elias

Water Resources Division

South Florida Water Management District